

and its role in the Bay Area. He was an especially important advisor during our consideration of the Affordable Care Act. He was always laser focused on providing the best possible care for as many Americans as possible while maneuvering the complex financing of our health care system.

UCSF is a health machine built to fight a global pandemic. From early research into the technology that led to the vaccines to testing capacity and early healthcare directives, having UCSF Health in San Francisco fighting SARS-CoV-2 and its deadly progeny, COVID-19, likely saved thousands of lives in our region. Mark Laret has been the voice of authority, compassion, and leadership during this crisis and in every discussion about quality health care reform. In the many years that he has advised me, he was always trustworthy, informative, and persuasive. I have the deepest respect and admiration for his intellect and integrity.

From a small research and treatment campus on a hill and a few isolated campuses elsewhere, to a bustling regional powerhouse and global standard setter, UCSF Health prospered tremendously under the tenure of Mark Laret. After 21 years at the helm of this prestigious healthcare institution, it's now time to say goodbye to an historic leader. Let it be known that a humanitarian is retiring who can now spend more of his time with his beloved wife Jan Laret and their son Parker and daughter Casey. His duty having been accomplished with grace, his rest is justly earned.

RECOGNIZING DECEMBER 1ST AS WORLD AIDS DAY

HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 1, 2021

Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize December 1, 2021, as World AIDS Day. This is the 33rd year that the world will come together to raise awareness about preventive measures for HIV and AIDS.

World AIDS Day has been observed globally since 1988, bringing attention to the HIV epidemic and speaking out against the stigma surrounding HIV and AIDS. This day is a call to end the HIV epidemic in the United States and across the globe. This year's theme of "Ending the HIV Epidemic Equitable Access. Everyone's Voice" emphasizes the significance of working together to achieve an AIDS-free generation. Recent progress for prevention and treatment tools provides us with the unprecedented opportunity to end the epidemic.

Since 2010, deaths from HIV/AIDS have fallen by 48 percent in the United States, but we still have work to do. We must continue to educate and spread awareness about HIV and AIDS prevention measures. Of the approximate 1.2 million people living with HIV in the United States, 13 percent do not know they have HIV. It is imperative to implement programs at the local level to diagnose, treat, prevent, and respond to HIV. Together, we can end this.

This is also a time to remember those we lost to HIV-related illnesses. The actions of groups across the country have helped bring

us closer to our common goal. This year, the Rio Grande Valley's own Basilica of Our Life San Juan del Valle will be commemorating the lives lost to HIV/AIDS and marking the 30th anniversary of this event founded by Francisco Mendez.

Madam Speaker, I stand here today to acknowledge the hard work of those in South Texas and across the world to end the HIV epidemic and to recognize December 1, 2021, as World AIDS Day.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF ROYAL OAK, MICHIGAN

HON. ANDY LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 1, 2021

Mr. LEVIN of Michigan. Madam Speaker, I rise today to join residents and city leaders past and present in celebrating the one hundredth anniversary of the founding of Royal Oak, Michigan.

On November 8, 1921, residents voted to adopt a city charter, turning the then Village of Royal Oak into the City of Royal Oak. At that time, they elected a mayor and a city commission, who brought the City of Royal Oak to life. The first Mayor of Royal Oak, George Dondero, had previously served the Village of Royal Oak, and later went on to be elected to the 73rd United States Congress.

Over the past century, the City of Royal Oak has undergone a far-reaching transformation, and today is an energetic city filled with businesses, attractions, and almost 60,000 residents. It is now the eighth largest city in Oakland County and has been recognized as one of the most exciting, safest, and best places to live in Michigan. Royal Oak is home to a wonderful public library, Oakland Community College, the Detroit Zoological Park, Beaumont Hospital, and more than 50 public parks for all to enjoy. The City has made significant initiatives towards diversity and inclusion, towards green infrastructure and environmental friendliness, and towards supporting the many small businesses in Royal Oak. On a personal note, Royal Oak is special to my family for another reason—my father, former U.S. Representative Sander Levin, is a longtime resident of the City and, like me, was proud to represent its residents in Congress.

I have no doubt that the next century will bring continued achievements, growth, and prosperity to the City of Royal Oak and its people, and I invite my colleagues to join me in commemorating the centennial of this vibrant community in Michigan's Ninth District.

TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF ROBERT JAMES HANSON

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 1, 2021

Ms. ESHOO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Robert James Hanson, a resident of La Honda, California, a beloved Menlo Park merchant and a longtime friend.

Bob Hanson was born in Kansas on November 17, 1953, to Vivian and Robert Han-

son, and died on October 4, 2021, in Palo Alto, California. He is survived by his wife, Katie and his three children, Maddie, R.J. and Mathew. He is also survived by his mother, 3 siblings, his beloved granddaughter Agnes and many nephews and nieces.

Bob was a graduate of the University of Kansas and while in college worked at Mister Guys, a job that led him to a successful career in the clothing business. Bob and his wife Katie met while they were both working at the Ralph Lauren store in the Stanford Shopping Center. Bob said they were "struck by the entrepreneurial spirit" and in 1990 they founded Afterwards, a pioneering clothing consignment shop located in the heart of the Menlo Park business district. They later expanded into an adjacent property to sell home furnishings.

Those who knew Bob describe him as warm, friendly, engaging and classy, a wonderful man who always made time to chat. He had exceptional taste, a gentle smile, charm and was always ready with a quick witicism. He was the consummate businessman who always made his clients feel welcome and appreciated. He was all of this and more.

Madam Speaker, I ask the entire House of Representatives to join me in expressing our deepest condolences to the entire Hanson family. It is my hope that these words and those of so many others will bring solace to them as they grieve the loss of this wonderful man.

CONGRESSIONAL HISPANIC CAUCUS INSTITUTE HONORS DAN MALDONADO

HON. NANETTE DIAZ BARRAGÁN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 1, 2021

Ms. BARRAGÁN. Madam Speaker, in every generation, there are people whose names may not make the paper every day, but whose actions and legacy make an immeasurable impact felt by the entire community. Dan Maldonado is one of those people. In honoring him, the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute is recognizing his lifelong dedication to public service and his trailblazing record, and ensuring that his contributions are remembered for generations to come.

If there's one word that can describe Dan, "vision" comes to mind. He was one of the first—if not the first—Latino Chiefs of Staff in the U.S. House of Representatives. He also helped create the Congressional Hispanic Caucus (CHC) and the National Association of Latino Elected Officials (NALEO). These groups have grown from their humble roots to become leaders in amplifying the organized voices of Latino public officials and cementing the Latino community's place in the public sphere. In large part, we have Dan to thank for that.

Dan's service didn't end with Capitol Hill. He also worked in the Carter Administration as the Director of Legislation for ACTION/Peace Corps, helping to promote America's image abroad and cultivate our country's next generation of leaders.

There is one story in particular that highlights the kind of person Dan is. In 1982, he served as the Chief of Staff for Latino Congressman Edward Roybal from Los Angeles.

That term, the AIDS epidemic began taking hold in Southern California. While many were fearful and even dismissive, Congressman ROYBAL knew that a public health response was required. Working with Dan, he offered an amendment to procure Congressional funding for AIDS research at the National Institute of Health. Through controversy and criticism, Dan stood behind Congressman ROYBAL's amendment, which passed and proved critical to addressing the disease.

Proposing and standing behind the amendment was neither the obvious nor the popular thing to do. It was just the right thing to do, and Dan did it. That's the kind of person and leader he is. Our country is a better place because of his contributions.

I Congratulate Dan on this wonderful and well-deserved honor.

COMMEMORATING NOVEMBER 29TH AS THE ANNUAL OBSERVANCE OF THE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF SOLIDARITY WITH THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE AS DESIGNATED BY THE UNITED NATIONS

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 1, 2021

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, the United Nations General Assembly has designated the 29th of November for the annual observance of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People. It was on November 29, 1947 that the Assembly adopted the resolution on the partition of Palestine.

On November 29, 2021, in recognition of the Palestinian people and this annual observance I issued the following statement that I include in the RECORD:

Today, the world reflects on the condition of the Palestinian people who struggle under a brutal military occupation, barely survive under a cruel blockade, exist as second-class citizens inside Israel, and live in exile far from their homeland. The fundamental human rights all people seek, the rights that ensure safety and security, elevate human dignity, and promote peace and opportunity for the future, have been systematically denied to the Palestinian people for nearly eight decades. The international community has a moral obligation, and I personally feel this obligation, to stand in solidarity with the people of Palestine—defending their human rights, promoting their right to self-determination, and working tirelessly for a path forward toward justice, equality, and freedom for all Palestinians.

And, standing in solidarity with the Palestinian people, I call on the State of Israel to end its military occupation, end its illegal settlement expansion and annexation of Palestinian lands, and end its blockade of Gaza. I also call on the international community, including the U.S. government, to end policies that maintain the status quo, allowing for passive acquiescence to Israel's systematic designed and executed actions to deny the Palestinian people a future in their own homeland. It is time for the world community, especially the Biden administration, to take demonstrable steps toward holding all state and non-state actors in this conflict accountable to internationally recognized standards while working for a diplomatic outcome that will achieve peace, security, and a future of hope and opportunity for Pal-

estinians, Israelis, and all people in the region.

I am proud to stand in solidarity with the mothers and fathers, the elders, and the children of Palestine. And, pledge to continue to work in partnership with the Palestinian people to build a future of hope and opportunity for today and tomorrow.

CELEBRATING TULARE HIGH SCHOOL'S FFA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. DEVIN NUNES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 1, 2021

Mr. NUNES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Tulare High School's Agricultural Issues team for winning the prestigious 2021 National FFA Agricultural Issues Forum Leadership Development Event in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Hosted by the National FFA Organization, the National FFA Agricultural Issues Forum Leadership Development Event is a competitive event that tests students' knowledge of agricultural issues and evaluates how well they can apply classroom knowledge to real-life situations. To compete in the national competition, teams must first design a presentation that addresses multiple viewpoints of a contemporary agricultural issue and present it to multiple audiences in their community. Teams must then incorporate the feedback received from their local community into their presentation to the judges at the Leadership Development Event.

Raised in California's San Joaquin Valley—the most productive and abundant agriculture region in the world—Tulare High School's Agricultural Issues team was uniquely placed to learn from the world's preeminent farmers in preparation for the Leadership Development Event, including the Tulare County Farm Bureau, the Board of Directors at Harris Ranch, and other local community service clubs. Their national championship victory is a reflection of the determined work ethic and love for farming that defines Tulare County and the greater San Joaquin Valley community.

Congratulations to team members Aidan Champagne, Duncan Champagne, Avery Coelho, Emma Coelho, and Madeline Lew, and their coaches, Jennifer Sousa, and Dave and Krim Caetano. The Central Valley is proud of their tremendous accomplishment.

SAINT ANDREWS SOCIETY TOAST

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 1, 2021

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, on Monday I was grateful to attend the annual meeting of the Saint Andrews Society of Columbia, SC where William Brunson DePass, III, was elected President. The traditional toast to the President was provided by John McCabe, a fellow graduate of valued colleague, Tim Burchett's Bearden High School Class of 1982, of Knoxville, Tennessee.

TOAST TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, SAINT ANDREW'S SOCIETY OF COLUMBIA ANNUAL MEETING, NOVEMBER 29, 2021, FOR-EST LAKE CLUB

I have been bestowed the honor of offering a toast to his honor, The President of the United States of America, Joe Biden.

In order to prepare for this prestigious task, I sought advice from my neighbor across the street, John Brandon.

Brandon Advised me to be of the utmost comportment, elevate all comments to the highest level, and offer the toast with the greatest of respect. Good Advice

Therefore, Gentlemen, I offer a hearty health to the Honorable Joseph Robinette Biden, Jr., The President of the United States of America!

HONORING THE LIFE OF BRUCE CORWIN

HON. MIKE LEVIN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 1, 2021

Mr. LEVIN of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of my dear friend, Bruce Corwin, who passed away on November 4, 2021.

Bruce was born on June 11, 1940, alongside his twin sister Bonnie. He grew up in Southern California, where he attended Los Angeles High School, and then went on to attend Wesleyan University in Middletown, Connecticut.

Bruce returned home to become the third generation in his family to operate Metropolitan Theatres Corporation, a company founded by Bruce's grandfather in 1923 which operates a variety of multiplexes, theatres, and historic properties across Southern California. Most of their locations are in Santa Barbara and Los Angeles, with another location opening right along the coast in San Clemente in my congressional district later this year. In recent years, Metropolitan Theatres has even expanded to Colorado, Idaho, and Utah.

Beyond his role as a motion picture exhibitionist, Bruce was notably a valuable member of the community. He was famous around town for his license plate that spelled "P-E-O-P-L-E," which perfectly explained his dedication to public service.

Bruce previously served as Treasurer under former Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley during Bradley's entire 30-year political career. He continued to serve the community on multiple boards and with numerous organizations such as the Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Health Foundation and Coro Southern California.

Bruce and his wife, Toni, were married for 54 years and together they have two sons, David and Danny, and five grandchildren.

Bruce Corwin lived an incredible and full life. He was a dedicated husband, parent, philanthropist, and friend—but most importantly an essential part of the community. I had the pleasure of knowing Bruce not only as a friend, but also as a mentor for over twenty years. We are grateful for his dedication and contributions to the entire Southern California community.